

Message Text

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14

ACTION ARA-10

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8785

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USCINCSO QUARRY HEIGHTS CZ

C O N F I D E N T I A L LIMA 1331

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: MASS, PE

SUBJ: MAAG STRUCTURE/MANNING FOR PERU

REF: USCINCSO LETTER TO JCS OF JAN 23, 1976

1. I HAVE CLOSELY REVIEWED DORAL MCAULIFFE'S LETTER TO JCS WITH RESPECT TO MAAG STAFFING FOR PERU. A GREAT DEAL OF TIME AND ANALYSIS HAVE GONE INTO THIS USCINCSO EXAMINATION, AND BY AND LARGE I BELIEVE THAT AS REGARDS PERU THIS SOUTHCOM STUDY AND ITS CONCLUSIONS ARE FULLY RELEVANT AND USEFUL WITH RESPECT TO OUR MILITARY RELATIONS WITH GOP. INDEED, WHILE WE CAN TAKE NO CREDIT FOR OUR CURRENT MAAG MANNING LEVEL HERE, SINCE THE GOP IMPOSED THE PRESENT LIMITATIONS UPON US, WHAT WE HAVE IS VIRTUALLY THE "CORE" MISSION WHICH GENERAL MCAULIFFE DESCRIBES. I RECALL DISCUSSING THE PERU MANNING LEVEL WITH BOTH GENERAL ROSSON AND GENERAL MCAULIFFE DURING THEIR VISITS HERE, ADVISING THEM THAT OUR CURRENT STAFFING LEVEL SERVES ADMIRABLY AND MIGHT BE A SUITABLE MODEL FOR MANY OR MOST OF THE OTHER COUNTRIES IN THE HEMISPHERE. WHILE THE JANUARY 23 LETTER DOES NOT MENTION PERU IN THIS CONTEXT, THE STAFFING DESCRIBED IN PAGES 11-12 OF THE REPORT SOUNDS VERY MUCH LIKE THE PERU MANNING LEVEL.

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2. BASED ON OUR EXPERIENCE HERE, WE BELIEVE THAT A SUITABLE

"CORE"ORGANIZATION FOR THIS COUNTRY SHOULD CONTINUE TO COM-
PRISE: THE COMUSMILGP, A TRI-SERVICE MATERIEL AND LOGISTICS
OFFICER, A TRI-SERVICE MAP COORDINATION AND TRAINING OFFICER,
AND FOUR NCO'S (PLUS FOUR LWR CIVILIANS). WHILE I REPEAT THAT
THIS 7-MAN CEILING HAS BEEN IMPOSED UPON US BY GOP DECISION,
I BELIEVE THAT WE ARE WELL SERVED BY THIS COMPLEMENT AND NEED
NO ADDITIONAL ASSIGNED POSITIONS.

3. STATE AND DOD SHOULD ALSO BE AWARE OF OUR ATTEMPT TWO
YEARS AGO TO INCREASE THE MANNING LEVEL FROM THE PRESENT SEVEN
TO TEN POSITIONS. EARLY IN 1974 WE WERE LOOKING TOWARD AN
INCREASE IN FMS AND RELATED PURCHASE TRANSACTIONS, AND AT THAT
TIME RECOMMENDED TO GOP THAT AN ADDITIONAL TWO OFFICERS AND
ONE NCO BE PERMITTED IN OUR MAAG COMPLEMENT. EIGHT MONTHS
WENT BY FROM THE TIME OF OUR REQUEST AND THE GOP HAD STILL NOT
APPROVED OUR REQUEST FOR AN INCREASE; I WITHDREW THE REQUEST
IN LATE NOVEMBER OF THAT YEAR. THE MOST IMPORTANT LESSON WE
HAVE SINCE LEARNED, QUITE APART FROM HAVING ASSESSED THE
RELUCTANCE OF THE GOP TO PERMIT AN INCREASE, WAS THAT A
SIGNIFICANT INCREASE WAS SUCCESSFULLY CARRIED OUT IN FMS AND
RELASD MATERIEL TRANSACTIONS WITHOUT ANY INCREASE IN OUR
MAAG CEILING. TO THE EXTENT THAT ADDITIONAL STAFFING WAS
NEEDED IN CONJUNCTION WITH INTRODUCTION OF NEW WEAPONS
SYSTEMS UNDER THE FMS PROGRAM, THESE FUNCTIONS HAVE BEEN AND
ARE BEING TAKEN CARE OF WITH MOBILE TRAINING TEAMS AND TECH-
NICAL ASSISTANCE TEAMS. THESE TEAMS ARE SERVING OUR NEEDS
QUITE WELL, AND I BELIEVE THEY--AS WELL AS THE PERSONNEL
EXCHANGE ASSIGNMENTS WITH THE PERUVIAN ARMED FORCES--SHOULD
BE CONTINUED. THE ADVANTAGE OF SUCH TRAINING TEAMS IS CLEAR;
THEY COME TO PERU WHEN THE NEW WEAPONS SYSTEMS ARE INTRODUCED,
ASSIST THEIR PERUVIAN COUNTERPARTS IN ADAPTING TO AND MAIN-
TAINING THE HARDWARE IN QUESTION, AND THEY LEAVE WITHIN SIX
MONTHS OR A YEAR, OR AT MOST TWO YEARS.

4. WHETHER OR NOT THE FOREGOING COMMENTS APPLY TO OTHER
LATIN AMERICAN COUNTRIES AS WELL, I FIRMLY BELIEVE IN THE OFASE
OF PERU THAT OUR PRESENT MANNING LEVEL OF THREE OFFICERS AND
FOUR NCO'S IS ENTIRELY ADEQUATE TO MEET OUR NEEDS. I WOULD
PREFER NOT TO SEEK GOP APPROVAL FOR ONE ADDITIONAL POSITION;
IF IN EIGHT MONTHS THEY COULD NOT APPROVE OUR EARLIER REQUEST
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FOR AN INCREASE I SEE LITTLE PROSPECT FOR APPROVAL OF AN
INCREASE AT THIS TIME. NOR, IN MY VIEW, DO WE NEED THE ADDI-
TIONAL POSITION IN ORDER TO MEET OUR CURRENT AND PROSPECTIVE
MAAG WORKLOAD AND REQUIREMENTS.

5. CHUSMAAG PERU DOES NOT CONCUR THAT A PERSONNEL INCREASE
IS UNNECESSARY AND INFEASIBLE. HE INDICATES THAT (1) THE
GOP ALREADY "LOANS" FIVE ADDITIONAL EMPLOYEES TO AID MAAG IN

ITS WORK OF PROVIDING SERVICES TO THE GOP; (2) MTT'S, TAT'S
AND EXCHANGE PERSONNEL SUBSTANTIALLY INCREASE THE MAAG'S
ADMINISTRATIVE WORKLOAD; AND (3) PRESENT MAAG PERSONNEL
WORK EXTRA HOURS AND CURTAIL LEAVES TO MEET REQUIREMENTS.
CHUSMAAG ALSO BELIEVES ON THE BASIS OF INFORMAL CONVERSATIONS
WITH PERUVIAN MILITARY THAT THE PRESENT GOP WOULD LIKELY
APPROVE AN INCREASE IN MAAG PERSONNEL. (WERE ANY SUCH
APPROACH TO BE MADE, OF COURSE, THIS WOULD BE DONE BY THE
EMBASSY THROUGH THE FOREIGN MINISTRY.)
DEAN

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